

Serial No. 10/801,741

Docket No. P03074D1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A method of using a tamponade in an ophthalmic surgical procedure comprising:

creating an incision into a posterior chamber of an eye; and

filling said posterior chamber of the eye with said tamponade consisting essentially of a silicone oil made by a process of performing a that was purified by supercritical carbon dioxide extraction of said silicone oil or fluid to remove cyclic and oligomeric impurities.

18. (Currently amended) The process of claim 17 wherein said extraction is conducted at a pressure of approximately 3000 psi, and a temperature of approximately 55 degrees Celsius and a carbon dioxide flow rate of approximately 52 gm/minute.

19. (Previously presented) The process of claim 17 wherein said extraction is conducted at a carbon dioxide flow rate of approximately 20 to 26 gm/minute and a flow time of approximately 90 minutes.

20. (Currently amended) A method of using a tamponade in an ophthalmic surgical procedure comprising:

creating an incision into a posterior chamber of an eye; and

filling said posterior chamber of the eye with said tamponade consisting essentially of a silicone oil made by a process of performing a supercritical that was purified with a mixture comprising carbon dioxide mixture under supercritical extraction conditions of said silicone oil or fluid to remove cyclic and oligomeric impurities.

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21. (Currently amended) The process of claim 20 wherein said extraction is conducted at a pressure of approximately 3000 psi, and a temperature of approximately 55 degrees Celsius and a carbon dioxide mixture flow rate of approximately 52 gm/minute.

22. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said extraction is conducted at a carbon dioxide mixture flow rate of approximately 20 to 26 gm/minute and a flow time of approximately 90 minutes.

23. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent acetone.

24. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and a modifier.

25. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and acetone or acetonitrile.

26. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and methanol.

27. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and isopropanol.

28. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent methanol.

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29. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent isopropanol.

30. (New) A vitreoretinal composition consisting essentially of silicon oil that is purified by supercritical carbon dioxide extraction to remove cyclic and oligomeric impurities, said vitreoretinal composition configured for injection as a vitreous substitute for ophthalmic surgery.

31. (New) The vitreoretinal composition of claim 30 having an interfacial tension of 30 mN/m or greater.

32. (New) The vitreoretinal composition of claim 30 having a viscosity from 6,890 cps to 8,000 cps.

33. (New) The vitreoretinal composition of claim 32 having a viscosity from 6,890 cps to 8,000 cps.